

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. – 2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) A method for inhibiting plant growth in a target plant, which comprises a step of introducing an anti-sense nucleotide sequence against a polynucleotide set forth in SEQ ID NO. 1, into a plant, whereby inhibiting the expression—or function of a polypeptide that has the cinnamyl alcohol dehydrogenase function and consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO. 2—or its equivalent sequence.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 3, in which the step is performed by introducing a recombinant vector containing an anti-sense nucleotide against the polynucleotide set forth in SEQ ID NO. 1 ~~claim 2~~ into a plant.

6. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 3, in which the step is performed by introducing a *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* transformant transformed with a recombinant vector containing an anti-sense nucleotide against the polynucleotide set forth in SEQ ID NO. 1, ~~claim 2~~, into a plant.

7.- 8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A composition for inhibiting plant growth in a target plant
~~comprising a growth inhibitor screened by the process set forth in claim 8 comprising a~~
~~transformant of *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* transformed with a recombinant vector containing an~~
~~anti-sense nucleotide sequence against a polynucleotide set forth in SEQ ID NO.1.~~

10. (Canceled)